(b) if so, the criteria fixed for selection;

(c) whether Government propose to hold special training camps before and after the trials;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the facilities provided to Indian athletes to enhance their performance in games?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) Initially number of Athletes/players were invited for coaching camps in preparation of Afro-Asain games. Now the process of weeding out the players, who did not improve their performance has begun. Final selection of players/teams will be made by duly constituted Selection Committees of the concerned National Sports Federation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Various Coaching Camps for preparation of Indian Players/teams are in progress at Patiala, Bangalore, Shimla, Shilaroo, Ludhiana, Chennai, Jallandhar, Delhi and Lucknow.

(e) To enhance the performance, the Indian Athletes are given specialized training during Coaching camps by the Indian & Foreign Coaches with required scientific and medical support.

Sports Festivals for Women

3664. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing any central scheme of Sports Festival for Women (SFW) to promote women players in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Status of SFW in Andhra Pradesh, during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the scheme of National Sports festival for Women, which was

launched in 1975, National level sports competitions are organized by the Sports Authority of India, involving women sports persons from all over the country. Besides, financial assistance is sanctioned to various States/UTs for organization of lower level sports competetions for women at the following rates:

	COMPETITION	FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
(i)	For Block level	Rs. 1000/- per block
(ii)	For Distt. level	Rs. 3,000/- per Distt.
(iii)	For State level	Rs. 10,000/- per State
(iv)	For smaller States and UTs	Rs. 5,000/- per State or U.T

However, Central financial assistance for block level competitions is restricted to 60% of total blocks where competitions are held in a State and for the remaining 40% of the blocks the State concerned is advised to share the full expenditure.

(c) The status of SWF in Andhra Pradesh during the last 5 years is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Grant released to Andhra Pradesh (in Rupees)	No. of participants in Block level	No. of participants in District level	No. of participants in State level	No. of participants in National level
1.	1996-97	1,69,000/-	17,130	4,776	1001	113
2.	1997-98	2.77,000/-	38,064	20,388	2657	87
3.	1998-99	Nill	17,820	900	1050	123
4.	1999-00	Nil	20,840	1150	1100	106
5.	2000-01	2,77,000/-	Information awaited	Information awaited	Information awaited	123